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**California
Medicine**



EDITORIAL

Welcome AMA

CALIFORNIA MEDICINE welcomes the American Medical Association to San Francisco for its 117th Annual Convention. This welcome is a warm one and it is not only to San Francisco but to all of California and the West. You have come periodically since 1871 and have watched us wrestle with our growth and our problems. Your initial California convention, also in San Francisco, was held soon after the transcontinental railroads were completed. It proved to be a potent stimulus to organized medicine in California which has been restlessly growing and generally thriving since that occasion.

The editors of CALIFORNIA MEDICINE and the Council of the California Medical Association take pleasure in presenting this special issue of our Journal as a gift to physician registrants at this AMA convention in San Francisco. While each issue of this monthly Journal strives to reflect the increasingly important scientific, socio-economic and political achievements of medicine in the West, and also to discuss constructively many other scientific and social problems which remain yet to be resolved, this particular number has been especially structured to provide informative and useful fare for physicians who have come from everywhere, and who would perhaps like to take another reading on what's going on in California and the West — as well as attend the convention. If there

are moments between meetings, or perhaps enroute home, when this June issue profitably occupies your interest, the editors and staff will be well rewarded.

CALIFORNIA MEDICINE, it should also be noted, has made another and much greater gift not only to the physicians who may attend this convention, but to all of American medicine. Its editor for twenty-one years has resigned that post and he is missed. He will be inaugurated the 123rd President of the American Medical Association at this meeting in San Francisco.

We wish the AMA a happy and productive convention and Dwight L. Wilbur particular Godspeed as he assumes his enormous responsibility.

A New Kind of Forum

A NEW KIND of forum is inaugurated elsewhere in this issue. It is a forum with a practical purpose which goes beyond the usual exchange of views, and sometimes emotion, which all too often leads to little or nothing except occasionally a feeling of relief or satisfaction on the part of some of the participants. The purpose of the forum on "The Scope and Responsibility of Medicine" (page 405) is to provide a means of relatively free discussion of a topic which badly needs discussion, within a framework which is not sharply restricted as to time, place or participants, and which is capable of producing an end product distilled from the discussion which might achieve formal acceptance and so be useful.